

supervision of the Atlantic Area Commander are in charge of the marine inspection offices in the various ports and have command responsibilities with assigned marine safety zones for the performance of duties with respect to the inspection, enforcement and administration of navigation and vessel inspection laws, and rules and regulations governing marine safety. The Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, has been designated and delegated to give immediate direction to Coast Guard activities relating to marine safety functions consisting of inspection of vessels in order to determine that they comply with the applicable laws, rules, and regulations relating to construction, equipment, manning and operation, and to be satisfied that such vessels are in seaworthy condition for the services in which such vessels are to be operated; shipyard inspections; factory inspections of materials and equipment for vessels; the licensing, certificating, shipment and discharge of seaman; investigations of marine casualties and accidents; investigations of violations of law; negligence, misconduct, unskillfulness, incompetence or misbehavior of persons holding licenses, certificates, or documents issued by the Coast Guard; initiations of actions seeking suspension or revocation under 46 U.S.C. chapter 77 of licenses, certificates and documents held by persons, and presentation of cases at hearings before Administrative Law Judges; and the enforcement of navigation, vessel inspection and seaman laws in general.

(c) The Commanding Officer of the National Maritime Center has been designated and delegated to:

(1) Give direction to Coast Guard activities relating to marine safety functions consisting of the licensing, credentialing, certificating, shipment and discharge of seamen;

(2) Refer to the processing Regional Examination Center (REC) or cognizant OCMI potential violations of law, negligence, misconduct, unskillfulness, incompetence or misbehavior of persons holding merchant mariner's documents, licenses, certificates or credentials issued by the Coast Guard, and recommend suspension or revocation under 46 U.S.C. Chapter 77 when deemed appropriate; and

(3) Grant, withhold, suspend, or withdraw course approvals.

(d) The Commanding Officer of the National Maritime Center has the same authority as an OCMI for the purpose of carrying out the marine safety functions listed in paragraph (c) of this section pursuant to the provisions of Subchapter B of this chapter.

(e) Applicants for merchant mariner's documents, licenses, certificates or credentials may apply to the Coast Guard National Maritime Center or any of the Regional Examination Centers. Applicants may contact the National Maritime Center at 4200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 630, Arlington, Virginia 22203-1804, or by telephone at 202-493-1002. A list of Regional Examination Locations is available through the Coast Guard Web site at <http://www.uscg.mil>.

(f) For descriptions of Coast Guard districts and marine inspection zones, see 33 CFR part 3.

[CGD 88-033, 54 FR 50376, Dec. 6, 1989, as amended by CGD 97-057, 62 FR 51040, Sept. 30, 1997; USCG-2000-7790, 65 FR 58457, Sept. 29, 2000; USCG-2006-24520, 71 FR 35818, June 22, 2006; USCG-2006-25535, 71 FR 48482, Aug. 21, 2006; 71 FR 54768, Sept. 19, 2006; USCG-2006-24520, 71 FR 60066, Oct. 12, 2006; USCG-2006-25535, 72 FR 7930, Feb. 22, 2007]

§ 1.01-20 Suspension and revocation proceedings.

(a) The Commandant takes final agency action on each proceeding concerned with revocation.

(b) The Commandant has delegated authority to the Vice Commandant in 33 CFR 1.01-40 to take final agency action under subparts I, J, and K of part 5 of this chapter on each proceeding except on a petition or appeal in a case on which an order of revocation has been issued.

(c) The Commandant assigns to his staff a Chief Administrative Law Judge who is an Administrative Law Judge appointed under 5 U.S.C. 3105 and whose assignment is to:

(1) Act as adviser and special assistant to the Commandant on matters concerning the administration of hearings conducted under 46 U.S.C. chapter 77;

(2) Conduct hearings under 46 U.S.C. chapter 77;

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(3) Train new Administrative Law Judges assigned to conduct hearings under 46 U.S.C. chapter 77;

(4) Review the written decisions and orders of each Administrative Law Judge assigned to conduct a hearing under 46 U.S.C. chapter 77; and

(5) Act as adviser to the Chief Counsel in preparation of the final action of proceedings conducted under subparts I, J, and K of part 5 of this chapter.

(d) The Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard, under the general direction and supervision of the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard:

(1) Acts as an adviser and as a special assistant to the Commandant in matters of law; and

(2) Prepares for the consideration of the Commandant or the Vice Commandant, as appropriate, proposed decisions on cases on appeal or review in suspension and revocation proceedings.

§ 1.01-25 General flow of functions.

(a) The Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, has final authority with respect to the functions described in § 1.01-15(b) of this subpart, subject to the rights of appeal set forth in subpart 1.03 of this part.

(b)(1) The general course and method by which the functions (other than those dealing with suspension and revocation of licenses, certificates or documents described in paragraph (c) of this section) concerning marine safety activities are channeled, begins with the Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, at the local Sector Office. From this Officer the course is to the Chief, Marine Safety Division, on the staff of the District Commander, and then to the District Commander. From the District Commander, the course is to the Chief of one of the offices with Marine Safety and Environmental Protection at Headquarters.

(2) For Activities Europe, the course is from the Officer in Charge, Activities Europe to the staff of the Atlantic Area Commander, then to the Atlantic Area Commander, and then to the Chief of one of the offices with Marine Safety and Environmental Protection at Headquarters.

(c) In proceedings involving the suspension or revocation of a Coast Guard license, certificate or document issued

to an individual, the course and method by which such proceedings are channeled are as follows:

(1) In the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Territory of Guam, the Virgin Islands, and other possessions, the proceedings are initiated by the bringing of charges and specifications against the holder of the Coast Guard license, certificate or document. A Coast Guard Investigating Officer under the supervision of an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, or an Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection causes the charges and specifications to be served on the person described therein (person charged) who is a holder of a Coast Guard license, certificate or document. At a hearing the Coast Guard submits evidence to support the charges and specifications, while the person charged may submit evidence in rebuttal or mitigation. The Administrative Law Judge renders a decision on the basis of the evidence adduced at the hearing and the law. The Administrative Law Judge's decision is given to the person charged.

(i) In a case where an appeal is made by the person charged, the notice of appeal is filed with the Administrative Law Judge who heard the case or with any Officer in Charge, Marine Inspection, for forwarding to such Administrative Law Judge.

(ii) [Reserved]

(2) [Reserved]

(d) In the performance of their duties, all Coast Guard Administrative Law Judges are bound by law and the regulations in this chapter or in 33 CFR chapter I. Statements of policy, clarification of points of procedure, and general administrative instructions are published in *Administrative Law Judges' Circulars* and *Administrative Law Judges' Internal Practices and Procedures Series*. The Chief Administrative Law Judge, located in the Office of the Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard,